

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 095280

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 095280

TOSEC 121

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PERS (ROGERS, WILLIAM)

SUBJECT: WASHPOST NEWS, COMMENT FRIDAY MAY 18.

FOR BRAY.

1. POST HAS 22 SEPARATE STORIES, COMMENTARIES, LEAD EDITORIAL ON WATERGATE, INCLUDING SIX ARTICLES AND ERVIN HEARINGS PHOTO ON PAGE ONE.

2. ROGERS. IN WORLD NEWS ROUNDUP PAGE 26 POST REPORTS SECRETARY ARRIVED IN COLOMBIA AMID PROTESTS BY LEFTIST STUDENTS WHO STAGED WALKOUT FROM CLASSES. SAYS SECRETARY SAID HE WOULD USE COLOMBIA STAY FOR MAJOR SPEECH EXPLAINING WASHINGTON'S QUOTE RENEWED ATTENTION UNQUOTE TO SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE.

3. CASEY. ON PAGE 14 UNDER FOUR COL. HEAD QUOTE CASEY DENIES VESCO SUIT ROLE UNQUOTE PHILIP GREER REPORTS FROM NEWYORK, USING FULL, STRAIGHT PLAY OF DEPARTMENT SPOKES-

MAN'S STATEMENT MADE FOR CASEY. STORY HAS INSET PARA FROM DIUGUID SAYING QUOTE CASEY IN BOGOTA WITH SECRETARY ROGERS UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 095280

TOLD WASHPOST THAT HE WAS UNAWARE OF ALLEDGED CONVERSATIONS WHEN HE TESTIFIED BEFORE GRANT JURY. WHEN HE FOUND OUT, HE SAID, HE TOLD U. S. ATTORNEY HANDLING CASE UNQUOTE. DIUGUID ADDS QUOTE ASKED IN BOGOTA IF HE HAS ANY INTENTION RESIGN-

ING FROM STATE DEPARTMENT CASEY REPLIED SUBQUOTE OF COURSE
NOT. I BROKE BIGGEST CASE IN HISTORY OF SEC AND I'M PROUD
OF IT END SUBQUOTE UNQUOTE.

4. WATERGATE PAGE ONE. LEAD STORY BY LAWRENCE MEYER SAYS
ERVIN HEARINGS OPENED WITH CLEAR INDICATIONS THAT INQUIRY
AIMED PRIMARILY AT UNCOVERING INVOLVEMENT TOP WHITE HOUSE
OFFICIALS IN ANY AND ALL WRONGDOING DURING '72 CAMPAIGN.
SAYS ACCORDING TESTIMONY ROBERT C. ODLE, JR., FORMER
ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR CRP, JOHN MITCHELL WAS INVOLVED
IN APPROVING MAJOR CAMPAIGN DECISIONS LONG BEFORE HE
RESIGNED AS ATTORNEY GENERAL, SAYS HE (ODLE) SPOKE TWO,
THREE TIMES A WEEK WITH STRACHAN AT WHITE HOUSE IN ORDER
KEEP HALDEMAN INFORMED ON CAMPAIGN. -- GEORGE LARDNER IN
OFF- LEAD WRITES RICHARDSON, SEEKING SOOTH SENATE OVER HIS
INSISTENCE ON QUOTE FINAL AUTHORITY UNQUOTE, PROPOSES
EIGHT- POINT CHARTER FOR SPECIAL PROSECUTOR HE PLANS AP-
POINT, ALLOWING PROSECUTOR ACT INDEPENDENTLY AND WITH FULL
AUTHORITY IN ALL ASPECTS CASE. STORY SAYS AT SAME TIME
RICHARDSON EXPANDED HIS LIST OF CANDIDATES FOR POST TO
EVEN DOZEN. ALREADY BRUISED IN SEARCH FOR APPOINTEE, HE
HOPES ANNOUNCE CHOICE BY SATURDAY. NOT INDICATED WHO DOZ-
EN MIGHT BE BEYOND JUDGES PECK, ERICKSON. -- WILLIAM
CLAIBORNE BY- LINER QUOTES SEN. SYMINGTON AS SAYING HE
FINDS IT HARD TO BELIEVE PRESIDENT UNAWARE ATTEMPTS BY
SENIOR WHITE HOUSE AIDES TO USE CIA TO COVER UP WATERGATE.
SYMINGTON EXPRESSED DOUBTS AFTER LISTENING TO THREE MORE
HOURS TESTIMONY BEFORE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE IN WHICH
HELMS ADMITTED HAVING HAD CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT
ABOUT CIA AND WATERGATE CASE JUST BEFORE HE NAMED AMB-
ASSADOR TO IRAN, INVOKED EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE WHEN ASKED
FOR DETAILS. -- NICK KOTZ BY- LINER SAYS THREE GIANT DAIRY
CO- OPS WHICH GAVE PRESIDENT \$422,500 IN DISPUTED CAMPAIGN
FUNDS LAST YEAR, ALSO LAVISHLY CONTRIBUTED TO CONGRESS-
IONAL RACES, OFTEN BACKING BOTH SIDES. CAMPAIGN RECORDS,
INTERVIEWS WITH OFFICIALS WHO BOTH RECEIVED, TURNED DOWN
CO- OPS' FUNDS REVEAL HOW MORE THAN \$2 MILLION MILK MONEY
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PAGE 03 STATE 095280

SPENT ON STATE, FEDERAL RACES LAST YEAR.

5. WATERGATE PAGE 12. ASSOCIATED PRESS SAYS FORMER STAFF
MEMBERS NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL SAY KISSINGER ORDERED

PHONE TAPS ON AIDES, NEWSMEN WHEN KISSINGER HIMSELF WAS
PRIME SOURCE OF LEAKS. REPORTS MARVIN KALB, HENRY BRAN-
DEN OF LONDON OBSERVER AMONG NEWSMEN TAPPED, WINSTON LORD,
HELMUT SONNENFELD, MORTON HALPERIN SOME AMONG HIS OWN
AIDES. -- AP FROM TAMPA REPORTS SEGRETTI PLEADS INNOCENT
TO CHARGES DISTRIBUTING PHONY CAMPAIGN LETTER DURING
FLORIDA PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY. -- SIDEBAR LISTS SIX PROBES

NOW AIM AT WATERGATE: 1. ERVIN COMMITTEE HEARINGS. 2. FEDERAL GRAND JURY IN WASHINGTON. 3. FEDERAL GRAND JURY IN NEW YORK (MITCHELL, STANS, SEARS). 4. FEDERAL GRAND JURY HOUSTON (ROBERT H. ALLEN AND MEXICAN LAUNDRY MONEY). 5. FEDERAL GRAND JURY ORLANDO (SEGRETTI ET AL). 6. LOS ANGELES COUNTY GRAND JURY (EXPECTED BE CONVENED NEXT MONTH TO INVESTIGATE ELLSBERG DOCTOR OFFICE BREAK- IN, ETC). LAWRENCE FEINBERG REPORTS LAWYERS FOR DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE OPPOSE MOTIONS BY HALDEMAN, EHRLICH- MAN ASKING DELAY IN DEPOSITIONS THEY SCHEDULED TO GIVE IN CONNECTION WITH DEMOCRAT' S CIVIL SUIT BECAUSE THEY QUOTE MAY BE INDICTED UNQUOTE AS RESULT FEDERAL GRAND JURY INVESTIGATIONS.

6. POST FRONTPAGES SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE VOTES UNANIMOUSLY TO FORBID PRESIDENT WAGE UNDECLARED WAR FOR MORE THAN 30 DAYS WITHOUT CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL, BILL CARRIES EXCLUSIONS FOR EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.

7. MARILYN BERGER BY- LINER ON FRONT PAGE REPORTS AFL- CIO URGES CONGRESS ERECT BARRIERS KEEP FOREIGN GOODS FROM COMING TO U. S., AMERICAN CAPITAL FROM GOING ABROAD.

8. KISSINGER. JONATHAN RANDAL REPORTS FROM PARIS KISS- INGER, LE DUC THO HOLD FIRST MEETING IN APPARENT CORDIAL ATMOSPHERE. KISSINGER SAID ON ARRIVAL THAT QUOTE MUTUAL GOODWILL COULD SPEED NORMALIZATION RELATIONS BETWEEN U. S., VIETNAM UNQUOTE.
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 095280

9. BREZHNEV. ROBERT KAISER FROM MOSCOW WRITES SYMBOLISM BREZHNEV' S BONN VISIT FRIDAY MAY BE AS IMPORTANT AS SUB- STANTATIVE RESULTS OF TRIP. ALTHOUGH BOTH SIDES HOPE TRIP WILL FURTHER IMPROVE RELATIONS, ESPECIALLY ECONOMIC, THERE NO PREDICTIONS OF DRAMATIC BREAKTHROUGH UNQUOTE.

10. MIDEAST OIL. JIM HOAGLAND WRITES FROM TRIPOLI LIBYAN PREMIER JALLOUD SHARPLY CRITICIZES JOINT OWNERSHIP AGREE- MENTS THAT WESTERN OIL COMPANIES HAVE WORKED OUT WITH PERSIAN GULF PRODUCING STATES, INDICATES LIBYA WILL PRESS AMERICAN COMPANIES FOR QUOTE FULL CONTROL UNQUOTE OF THEIR OPERATIONS IMMEDIATELY.

11. COMMENT. POST LEAD EDITORIAL ENTITLED QUOTE WATERGATE AND THE CIA UNQUOTE SAYS QUOTE RUSH EVENTS HAS CAST IMPRESSION CIA, TOO, WAS CAUGHT UP IN CRISIS OF GOVERNANCE KNOWN AS WATERGATE, WAS SOMEHOW ESPOILED OR SUBBORNED .. . (BUT) TO EXTENT INTEGRITY PROFESSIONAL INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MAY HAVE BEEN COMPROMISED, WE THINK IT NECESS- ARY LOOK FIRST TO WHITE HOUSE . . . (WHICH) TRIED BUT, IT

SEEMS, LARGELY FAILED COMPROMISE, SUBVERT CIA UNQUOTE.

STEPHEN ROSENFELD, MEG GREENFIELD, JOE ALSOP WATERGATE- RE-
LATED COLUMNS (ALL MELANCHOLY) WILL BE SUMMARIZED NEXT
NUMBERED PRESS CABLE. RUSH

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